Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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R 062332Z AUG 76 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1310 INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA AMEMBASSY CARACAS AMEMBASSY LA PAZ AMEMBASSY QUITO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS LIMA 7167

EO 11652: NA TAGS: ECIN, EGEN

SUBJ: ANDEAN PACT: CHILE REMAINS ADAMANT AS OTHER MEMBERS

SEEK TO IMPOSE ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL

REF: LIMA 6437

- 1. SUMMARY: AFTER THREE DAYS OF CLOSED DOOR MEETINGS, THE FIRST PERIOD OF THE 20 TH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE ANDEAN PACT COMMISSION ENDED WITH A PUBLIC DISPLAY OF THE DIVISION WITHIN THE GROUP. ALL BUT CHILE SUBSCRIBED TO THE NEWLY AMENDED ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL (DECISION 100) WHICH IS TO BE RATIFIED BY THE RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS WITHIN SIXTY DAYS. IT WILL THEN ENTER IN FORCE EVEN IF NOT RATIFIED BY ALL MEMBERS. CHILE STRONGLY REJECTED THE MOVE AND REPEATED DEMANDS FOR MODIFICATION OF DECISION 24 AND THE COMMON EXTERNAL TARIFF. END SUMMARY.
- 2. THE DELEGATES TO THE 20TH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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ANDEAN PACT COMMISSION WHICH OPENED AUGUST 2 WERE UNABLE

TO RECONCILE THE MAJORITY OPINION WITH CHILE'S DEMANDS FOR EXTENSIVE MODIFICATION OF BASIC TENETS OF THE PACT. THE SESSION RECESSED AUGUST 4 AFTER A SERIES OF CLOSED MEETINGS ATTENDED ONLY BY THE PRINCIPALS. THE COMMISSION WILL RECONVENE AUGUST 30.

- 3. AT THE BRIEF PUBLIC SESSION, VENEZUELAN REP REYNALDO FIGUEREDO PLANCHART SPOKE ON BEHALF OF THE FIVE-COUNTRY MAJORITY. HE RECALLED THAT DECISION 100 (THE ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL EXTENDING FOR TWO YEARS THE ORIGINAL DEADLINES FOR THE LIBERATION PROGRAM AND THE COMMON EXTERNAL TARIFF) HAD BEEN ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY AFTER EXTENSIVE CONSULTATION. THE FIVE COUNTRIES CONSIDERED THE ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL A PROPER STEP TO FURTHER INTEGRATION AND AGREED: (A) TO SIGN THE PROTOCOL TO THE AGREEMENT OF CARTAGENA AS RECOMMENDED TO THE GOVERNMENTS BY DECISION 100, (B) TO REOPEN THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION AUGUST 30, (C) TO SOLICIT THE GOOD OFFICES OF THE COMMISSION PRESIDENT AND THE JUNTA TO RESOLVE THE DIFFERENCES WITHIN THE COMMISSION, AND (D) TO EXPRESS FULL CONFIDENCE THAT WITHIN A BRIEF TIME ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES WOULD SUBSCRIBE AND RATIFY IN ORDER TO CONTINUE THE COMMON EFFORT TO ADVANCE THE IDEALS OF A UNITED LATIN AMERICA.
- 4. THE CHILEAN REP., ECONOMIC MINISTER SERGIO DE CASTRO, THEN READ A DECLARATION GIVING THE GROUNDS FOR CHILEAN ABSTENTION. THE DECLARATION STATED THAT CHILE HAD MADE CLEAR ITS RESERVATIONS OVER THE APPLICATION OF CERTAIN MECHANISMS OF THE AGREEMENT. THESE APPLICATIONS IMPOSE SACRIFICES UNACCEPTABLE TO THE DEVELOPING ECONOMY OF CHILE AND TO OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES. IT IS A FACT THAT DECISION 24 (TREATMENT OF FOREIGN CAPITAL) IS SO RIGID AND ANACHRONISTIC THAT IT IMPEDES THE FLOW OF FOREIGN CAPITAL. IT HAS THE EFFECT OF CONDEMNING THE POPULATION TO A LOW LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT OR REQUIRING EXTREME SCRIFICE TO GENERATE INTERNAL SAVING. MOREOVER, A HIGH COMMON TARIFF OBLIGES CONSUMERS TO PAY HIGHER PRICES, SUSTAINS INEFFICIENT PRODUCTION, PRECLUDES EXTENDING INTEGRATION TO OTHERS, SUCH AS THE ALALC UNCLASSIFIED

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MEMBERS, AND ENCOURAGES THE CREATION OF DUPLICATIVE INDUSTRIES IN EACH COUNTRY.

5. DE CASTRO SAID THAT BASED ON THE OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL STATEMENTS OF THE OTHER MEMBERS, CHILE HAD ENTERED THE PRESENT SESSION WITH THE HOPE THAT THE AGREEMENT COULD BE MODIFIED AS REQUIRED. FOR REASONS NOT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CHILE, THIS DID NOT RESULT

AS ANTICIPATED. THE SIMPLE EXTENSION OF DEADLINES WILL LEAD TO NOTHING WITHOUT THE SOLUTION TO THE BASIC PROBLEMS WHICH AFFECT THE INTEGRATION PROCESS. MOREOVER, THE PROTOCOL AS SUBMITTED IS NOT EVEN THE SAME AS THAT CONTAINED IN DECISION 100 AND CONSEQUENTLY SHOULD BE TREATED AS A NEW DECISION REQUIRING ALL THE FORMALITIES OF APPROVAL.

6. DE CASTRO'S CHARGE THAT DECISION 100 HAD BEEN
ALTERED REFERS TO THE ADDITION OF AN ARTICLE 14. THE
ADDED ARTICLE STATES THAT THE PROTOCOL WOULD ENTER INTO
EFFECT WHEN THE MEMBER COUNTRIES HAVE RATIFIED IT IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR LEGAL PROCEDURES AND HAVE COMMUNICATED
THE RATIFICATION TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE ALALC.
IF, WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM AUGUST 4, THE PROTOCOL IS NOT
THEN IN FORCE, IT WILL AUTOMATICALLY BECOME
EFFECTIVE, THROUGH WHETHER IT WOULD BE DECLARED EFFECTIVE
FOR MEMBERS THAT HAVE NOT RATIFIED AS WELL AS THOSE THAT
HAVE WAS NOT MADE CLEAR.

7. COMMENT: THE COMMISSION HAS NOW GIVEN ITSELF AN ADDITIONAL SIXTY DAYS IN WHICH TO RESOLVE THEIR DIFFERENCES. HOWEVER, BY INSISTING THAT THE PROTOCOL BE ADOPTED EVEN WITHOUT CHILE'S CONCURRENCE, THE MAJORITY HAS FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGED CHILE'S ALIENATION AND MADE RECONCILIATION THAT MUCH MORE DIFFICULT. SMITH

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